

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 12-21, 26-35, 40-42, 44-47, 49-52, 54, 71, and 74 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ahamed (Carbohydrate Polymers 31:99-103 (1996)).

Claims 1-8, 12-21, 26-35, 40-42, 44-47, 49-52, 54, 71, 74-75, and 80 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wurzburg (US 4,428,972).

Claims 1-8, 12-21, 26-35, 40-42, 44-47, 49-52, 54, 71, 74-75, and 80 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Yasui.

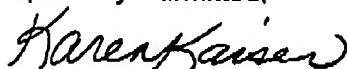
Applicants respectfully traverse the above rejections. The claims of the present invention are directed to a "potato starch which, when in native form extracted from a potato..." [emphasis added]. Ahmed teaches a quinoa starch, Wurzburg a maize (corn) starch, and Yasui a wheat starch. None teach a potato starch as claimed. It is well known in the art that potato starches are not freeze-thaw stable and thus a freeze thaw stable potato starch is novel. Thus, it is clear that none of the references cited anticipate the present patent.

The Examiner has countered that the recitation of "potato" is not seen as limiting the claim without a showing that starch extracted from potato has a different structure or different properties from starch extracted from any other source.

It is well known in the art that potato starch differs significantly from other starch sources in a variety of ways. To begin, potato is a tuber, not a cereal grain such as corn, wheat and quinoa. Potato starch is also a charged polymer due to its significant phosphate content which there is no significant phosphorous in corn, wheat or quinoa. This phosphate content results in a higher viscosity in deionized water. The molecular weight of amylose in potato starch is typically about twice that of other starches. Further, potato starch has a low lipid and protein content compared to corn, wheat or quinoa starch. Also, potato starch has a substantially larger granule size compared to corn or quinoa and is unique in that it has a bimodular granular size distribution. Finally, potato has a better, more neutral flavor profile than corn, quinoa or wheat.

In view of the foregoing, it is clear that potato starch is different from that of quinoa, corn or wheat and that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 have been overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that the Application is now in condition for allowance and requests early action thereon.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen G. Kaiser
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 33,506

National Starch and Chemical Company
P.O. Box 6500
Bridgewater, NJ 08807-0500
(908) 575-6152

Dated: 24 NOV 03